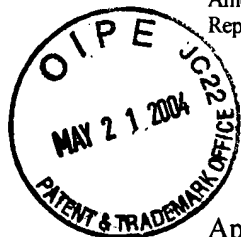


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Appl. No. 09/714,093  
Amdt. Dated May 18, 2004  
Reply to Office Action of Feb. 25, 2004



Docket No. CRD-0834

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants : Frank Butaric et al. Confirmation No.: 5116  
Appln. No. : 09/714,093  
Filed: November 16, 2000  
Title: An Improved Stent For Use in a Stent Graft  
Art Unit : 3738  
Examiner : Cheryl L. Miller

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May 18, 2004  
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Carl J. Evens  
(Name of applicant, assignee, or Registered Representative)

(Signature)

May 18, 2004  
(Date of Signature)

Mail Stop Non-Fee Amendment  
Honorable Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

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REPLY/AMENDMENT

Dear Sir:

In response to the Office Action of February 25, 2004, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims, which begin on page two of this paper.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page four of this paper.